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ON THE EDGE

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LEGEND OF THE SAIGE



ROMAN
Curtis

Young

LEGEND OF THE SAGE

TM

ISSUE 4 OF 4

"WORLDS AT WAR"

STORY SO FAR

Unbeknownst to those on earth, our world shares its dimensional space with a mystic, twin world; a primitive world of magic and mystery. New York librarian, Victoria Noble is the only chance these two worlds have to survive a coming cosmic Apocalypse and she struggles to understand her place in the madness. Wizard-king Magos will destroy earth and attempt to spread his rule across the multi-verse, if he can locate the key to earth's annihilation. New York sits at ground zero in this battle for universal supremacy, and the search circles ever closer to the moment of destruction. Victoria and her allies will have to race against the clock to prevent this threatened doom.

Written By: BRIAN AUGUSTYN

Illustrated By: ROMANO MOLENARIS

Inked By: CURTIS ARNOLD

Colored By: HI-FI

Lettered By: CHAOS! JIMMY BETANCOURT

Standard Cover By: ROMANO MOLENARIS
CURTIS ARNOLD
BOY YOUNG

Variant Cover By: WILSON TORTOSA
CESAR AUGY DELARBA
JAY FOTOS

Edited By: MIKE FRANCIS

Graphic Design By: PETE SPEYER

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Chapter 4:

Worlds at War

WHERE
IS THE
SAGE?!

HE IS TULAN, PRINCE OF
THE OUTER ISLANDS,
DEPOSED RULER OF
ALL ARMACH -- EARTH'S
MYSTICAL TWIN REALITY.

THIS IS HIS FIRST
VISIT TO NEW
YORK, AND YET HIS
FOCUS IS **NOT** ON
GETTING TICKETS TO
THE PRODUCERS.

HE HAS A
COSMOS TO
SAVE.



THAT'S A QUESTION I'VE BEEN STRUGGLING WITH ALL ALONG...

...IF THIS **ALL-KNOWING** WISE MAN IS OUR ONLY HOPE, WHY HASN'T HE SHOWN HIS HAND YET?



THAT AIN'T THE **FIRST** QUESTION I'D ASK DAUGHTER-MINE...

...CAN SOMEONE TELL ME EXACTLY **WHEN** THE WORLD AND I WENT STARK, STARING **INSANE**?!



ALL WORLDS ARE **CREATED** IN CHAOS, MR. NOBLE -- IT'S UP TO US TO IMPOSE **MEANING** AND ORDER...

AND, COMIN' FROM THE LUCKY CHARMS GUY'S SEEDIER COUSIN, THAT'S S'POSED TO COMFORT ME... **HOW?**



DADDY, WE'VE ALL SEEN TOO MUCH TO KEEP RESISTING THE INEVITABLE... THIS **WEIRDNESS** IS **REAL**.

AND TO SAVE EARTH, WE NEED TO FIND THIS LEGENDARY **SAGE**...

THEN SEEK NO **MORE!**



IT'S THE
BOOK -- THE
ONE THE ODD
FELLOW DIED TO
BRING ME!

MY
BROTHER,
GILBY...

YES. I AM
NOTUS IGNOTUS,
THE KNOWN UNKNOWN!
ALL YOU NEED I
CAN GIVE.

SHHHHHH--

--RRRRRZZZZZ

I AM
TOME.





YOU HAVE TROD
THE SOIL OF **TWO**
WORLDS, VICTORIA NOBLE.
NOW YOU ARE READY
FOR THE **WISDOM**
YOU SEEK.

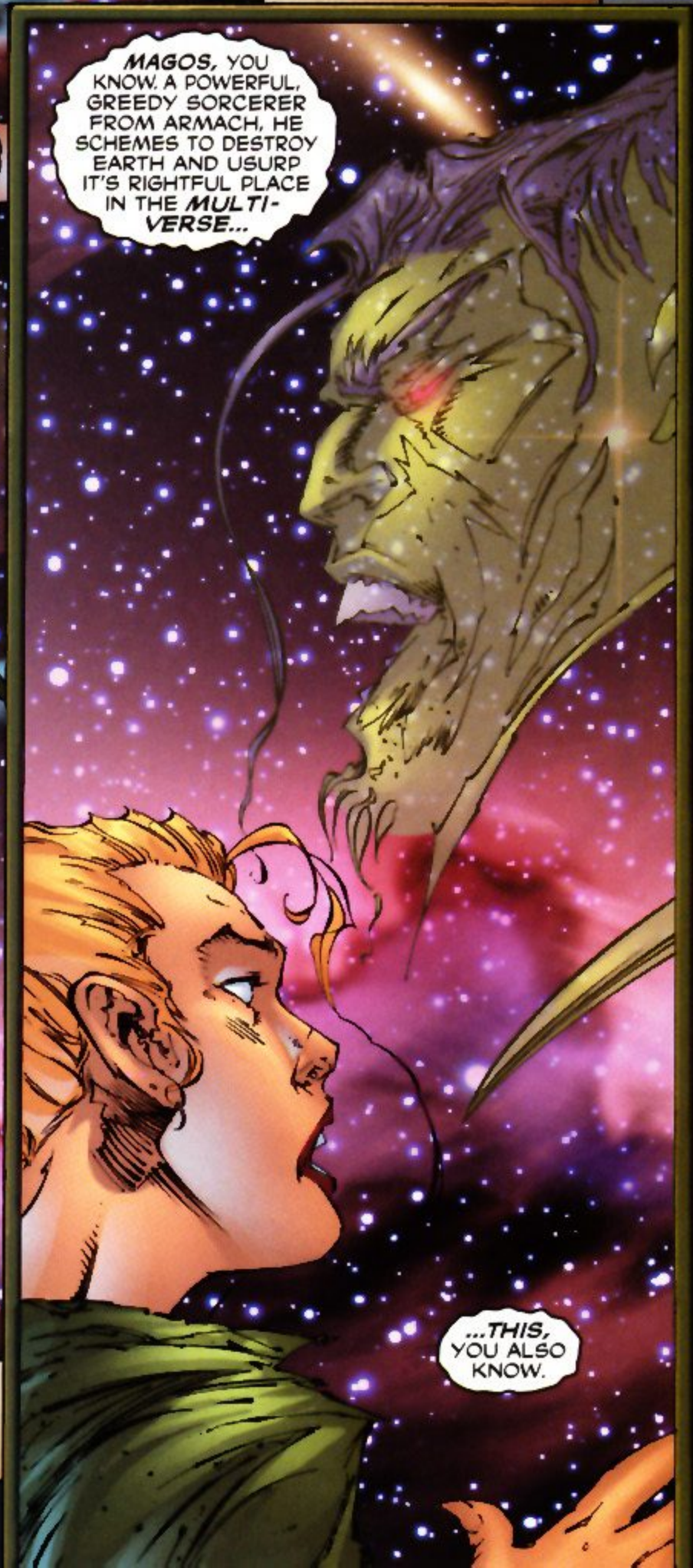
YES...

VIC --
NO! DON'T LET
HIM --!



YOUR EARTH,
LIKE ARMACH, IS
BUT ONE GEM IN AN
ENDLESS STRING.
FOREVER YOKED,
THESE WORLDS EXIST
IN **DYNAMIC**
BALANCE.

NONE
MAY EXIST,
WITHOUT
ANY OTHER.
THE COSMOS
REQUIRES
THIS!



MAGOS, YOU
KNOW. A POWERFUL,
GREEDY SORCERER
FROM ARMACH. HE
SCHEMES TO DESTROY
EARTH AND USURP
IT'S RIGHTFUL PLACE
IN THE **MULTI-**
VERSE...

...THIS,
YOU ALSO
KNOW.



IF HE
SUCCEEDS -- AND
HIS POWER IS GREAT
ENOUGH -- HIS ACTIONS
WILL **OBLITERATE**
ALL REALITY!

MAGOS WILL
RULE OVER EMPTY
DEVASTATION... BUT
ONLY AS A MEMORY. HE
WILL DIE TOO.

THE EARTH IS
SURROUNDED AND
CRADLED WITHIN
MATRICES OF **COSMIC
POWER**. EACH WORLD
TETHERED TO THE NEXT
BY CORDS OF THIS
ENERGY...

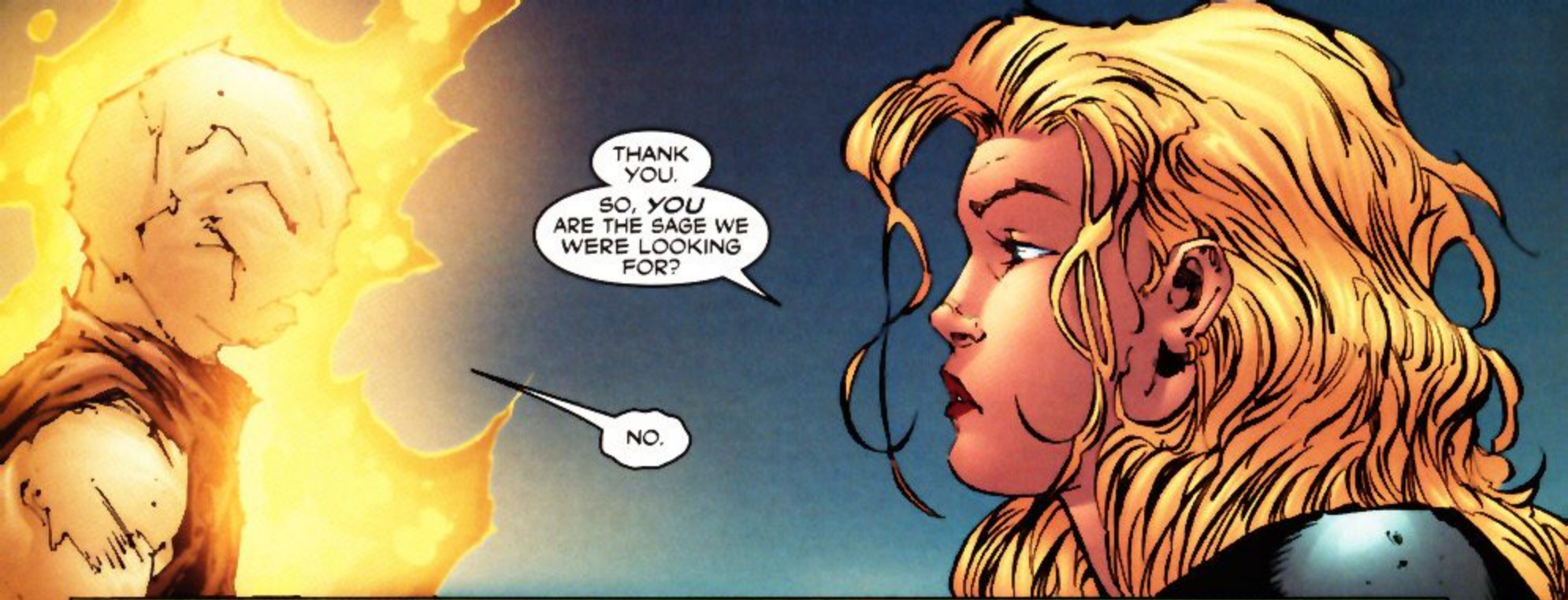
...THESE CORDS
ARE ANCHORED
WITHIN THE WORLD'S
REALITY TO ITS **AXIS
MUNDY** -- ITS
WORLD AXIS.

EARTH'S AXIS
IS IN NEW YORK.
MAGOS IS ABOUT
TO FIND IT.

HE MUST BE
STOPPED. YOU
MUST INTERCEDE...
OR A **COSMOS**
IS LOST!

THIS IS
YOUR DESTINY,
VICTORIA.

NOW
IS YOUR
TIME!



THANK YOU.
SO, YOU ARE THE SAGE WE WERE LOOKING FOR?

NO.



I AM BUT A VESSEL. A CONDUIT OF THE WISDOM YOU NEEDED.

THE TITLE OF SAGE RIGHTLY BELONGS TO ANOTHER...



...INDEED, VICTORIA NOBLE, IT IS YOU.

YOU ARE THE SAGE WHOSE COMING WAS FORTOLD!



AND WITHIN YOU **KNOW** I SPEAK ONLY THE TRUTH.

YES. THE RIGHTNESS RESONATES WITH MY SOUL... I KNOW MY DESTINY.



Yes! I feel it as well -- I will follow you to death, Lady Victoria!

TO THE DEATH...? IS THERE ANY WAY, I COULD TAKE MY DAUGHTER'S DUTY FOR HER?



THANK YOU, DADDY, BUT YOU CAN'T PROTECT ME FOREVER. AND I HAVE TO DO THIS.

TULAN WAS JUST BEING COLORFUL ANYWAY, I PLAN ON SURVIVING,

MASTER TOME, HOW WILL WE FIND THE AXIS --?

MASTER TOME --?!

MY WORK IS ALL BUT DONE. YOU KNOW HOW TO USE YOUR GIFTS. SEEK AND YOU WILL FIND...

SCHOOOUFFEE--

...SEEEEEK --

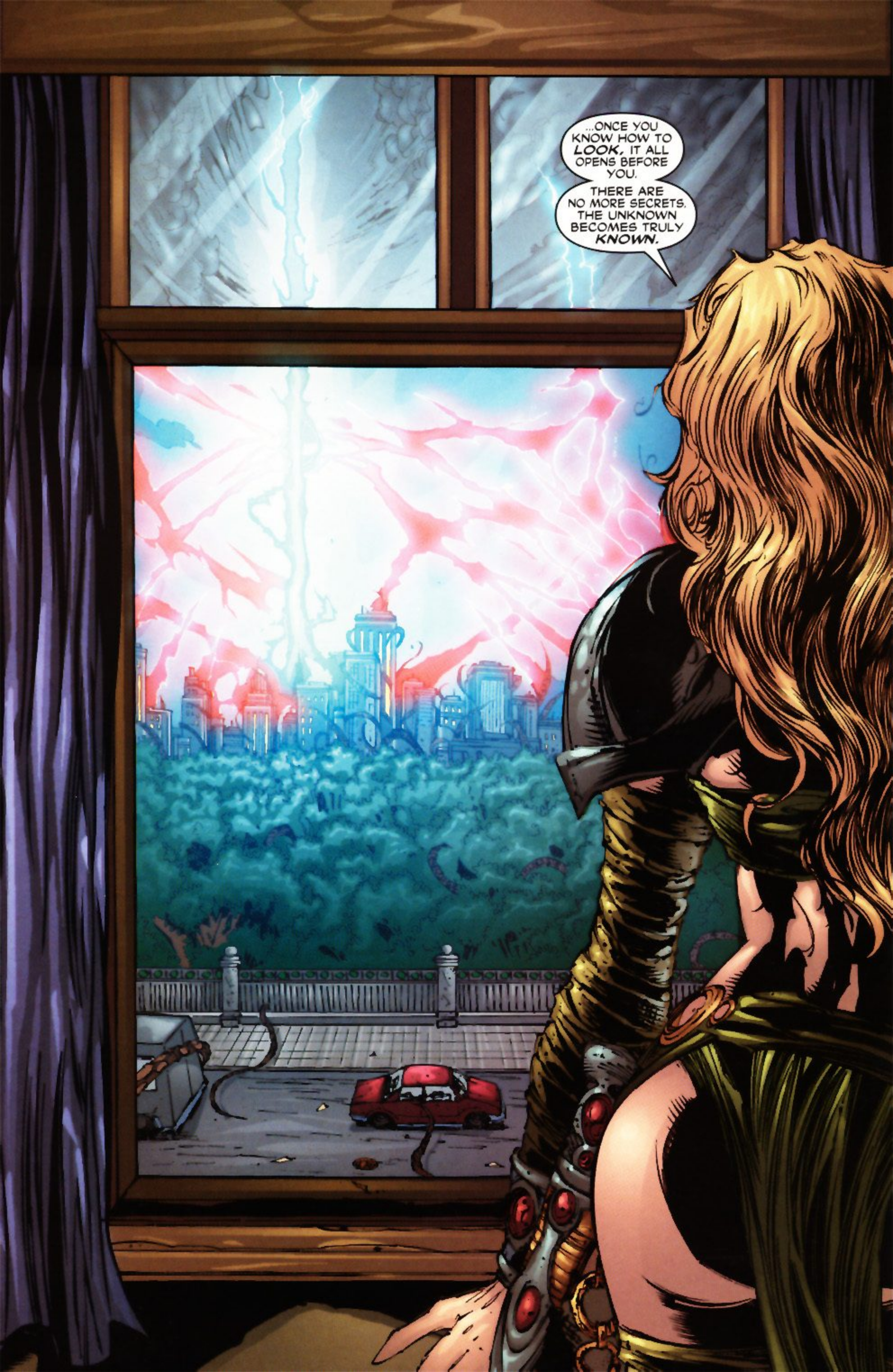
He had his job and we have ours. Let's hasten to battle with Magos!

HOW? HOW DO WE FIND HIM...?

EASIER THAN YOU KNOW...

...ONCE YOU
KNOW HOW TO
LOOK, IT ALL
OPENS BEFORE
YOU.

THERE ARE
NO MORE SECRETS.
THE UNKNOWN
BECOMES TRULY
KNOWN.





"IF THE MOVEMENT OF ATOMS CAN BE DISCERNED, THE ACTIONS OF A POWERFUL ENEMY BECOME PAINFULLY OBVIOUS..."



AT LAST I AM HERE TO SHEPHERD THIS WORTHLESS REALM TO ANNIHILATION!

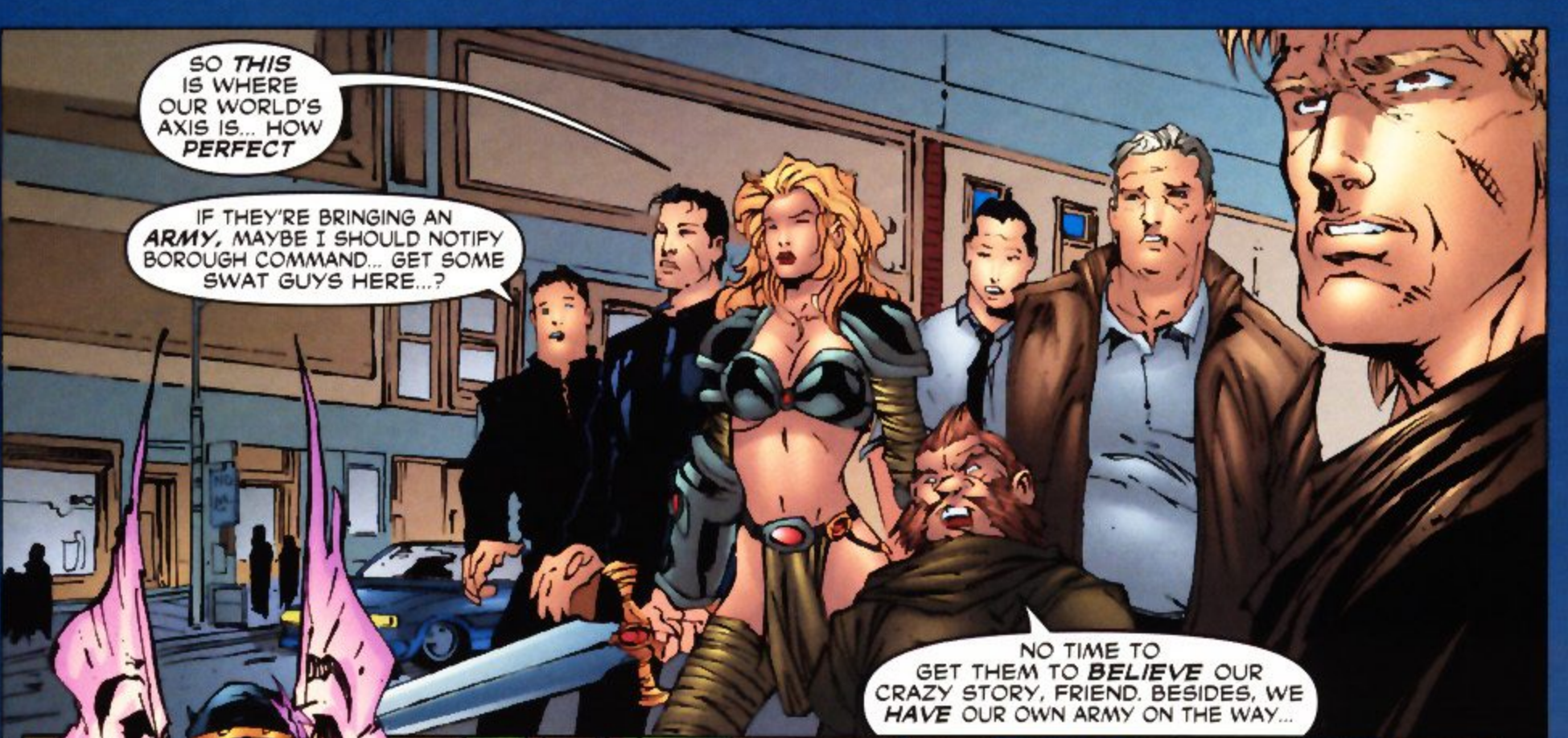
THE AXIS MUNDY IS DIRECTLY BELOW -- FOLLOW YOUR KING!



...NOTHING UNUSUAL TO REPORT, BILL...



YAAAAAIIIIII--!



SO *THIS*
IS WHERE
OUR WORLD'S
AXIS IS... HOW
PERFECT

IF THEY'RE BRINGING AN
ARMY, MAYBE I SHOULD NOTIFY
BOROUGH COMMAND... GET SOME
SWAT GUYS HERE...?

NO TIME TO
GET THEM TO **BELIEVE** OUR
CRAZY STORY, FRIEND. BESIDES, WE
HAVE OUR OWN ARMY ON THE WAY...



WING
COMMAND
TROOPS
REPORTING
FOR DUTY!

GADDIS,
THANK GOD
YOU'RE
HERE!

YOU FIND
THE **AXEL**
WHATSIS --?
WHERE IS
IT?



HUMANITY HAS
OFTEN INSTINCTIVELY
BUILT ATOP POINTS OF
POWER. WHAT COULD BE
MORE APPROPRIATE
THAN THE...
THE
EMPIRE STATE
BUILDING?!



AND
MAGOS
HAS FOUND
IT TOO!



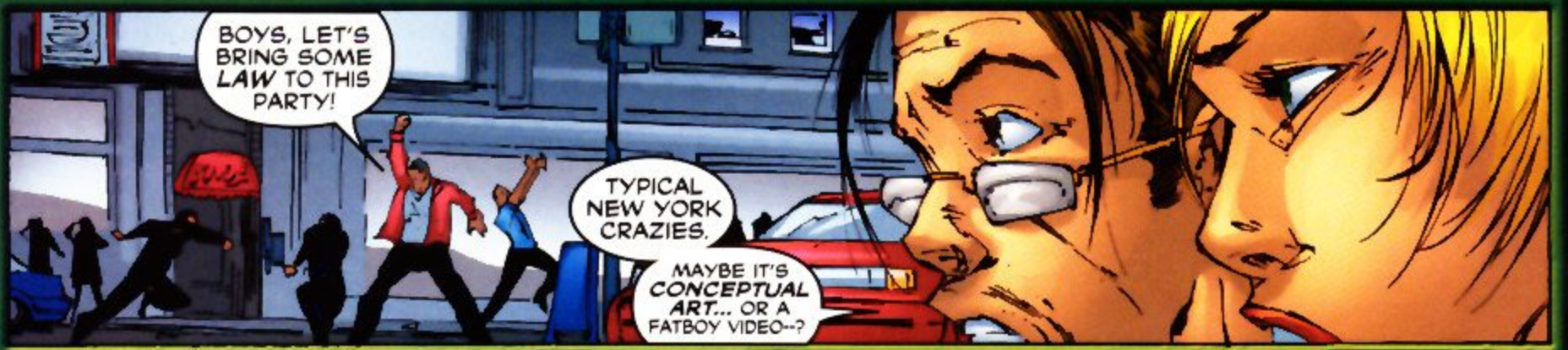
IF YOU'RE TO JOIN US, GENTLEMEN, LET ME SEE TO IT THAT YOU'RE PROPERLY ATTIRED.

ALL... RIGHT... BUT I HOPE I CAN STILL USE MY COLT TOO...



ALL THIS INSANITY DROPPING RIGHT INTO THEIR LAPS AND NO ONE BATS AN EYE?!

LET'S GET THEM!



BOYS, LET'S BRING SOME LAW TO THIS PARTY!

TYPICAL NEW YORK CRAZIES.

MAYBE IT'S CONCEPTUAL ART... OR A FATBOY VIDEO--?

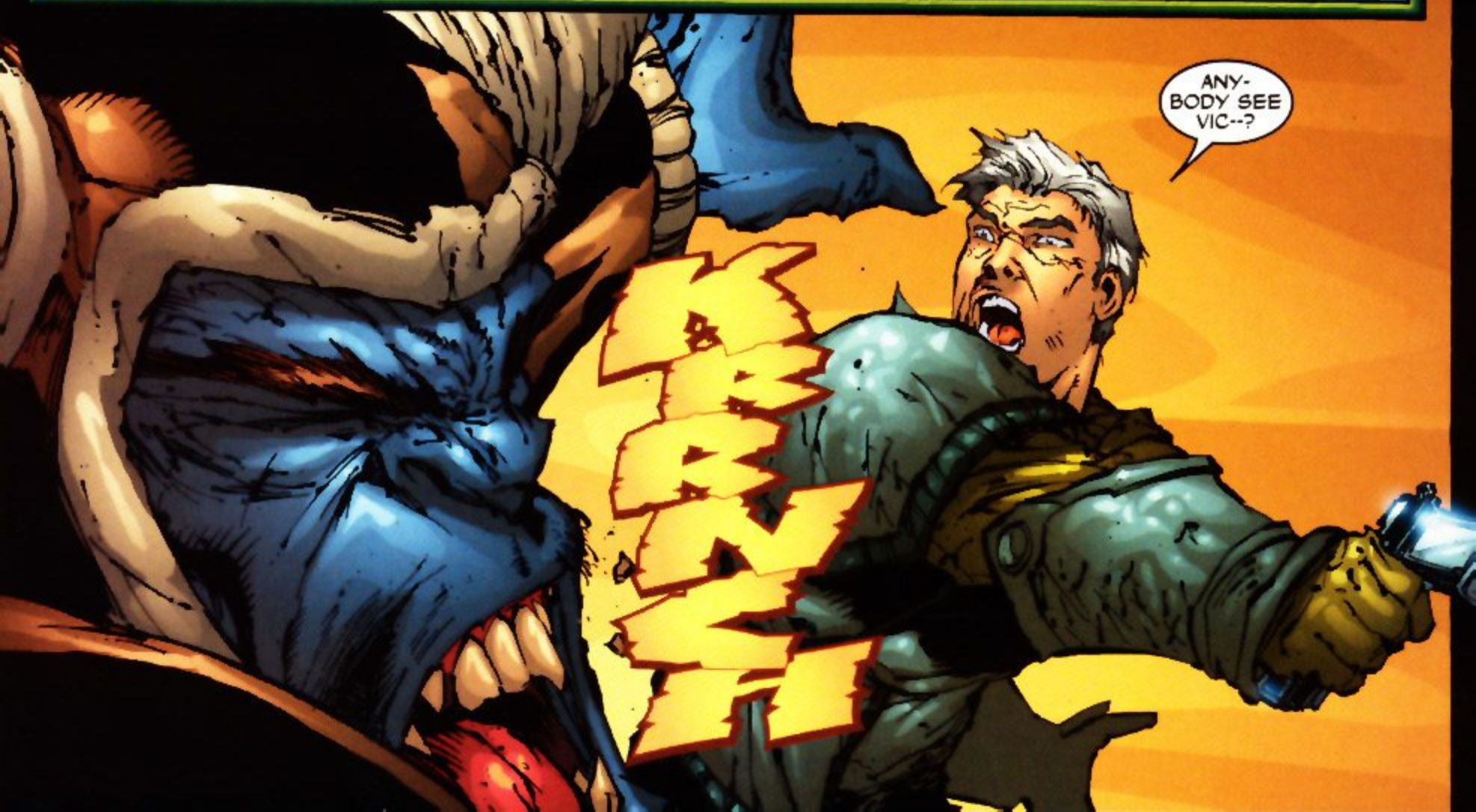


SHANNNGG

THEY'RE REAL ENOUGH TO HIT, THEY'RE REAL ENOUGH TO BE HIT!

BRING IT ON, BEASTIES!

KRRRR



ANY-BODY SEE VIC--?



HUNH
HUNH
HUNH

HMPF!
ALL WE
NEED NOW
IS FAY
WRAY...



...OR AT LEAST,
JESSICA
LANGE.
GET
'EM!

SWAARL



AKOOOOO!



THE WING COMMAND
TAKES THIS SKIRMISH,
BUT DON'T GET
COMPLACENT -- THE
WAR GOES ON!



HAS ANYONE SEEN
VICTORIA...?



WHATAYA'
LOOKING AT,
YE' BLOODY
FOOLS?!



YOU MUST
BE THE *MAGIC*
BOZOS, EH? I'M
NOT IMPRESSED.
I GOTTA' TELL
YA.

I DO
A SPOT OF
NECROMANCY
M'SELF,
Y'KNOW...



TRY...
THIS!



UH-OH.



PUT
THE NOVICE
OUT OF HIS
MISERY...

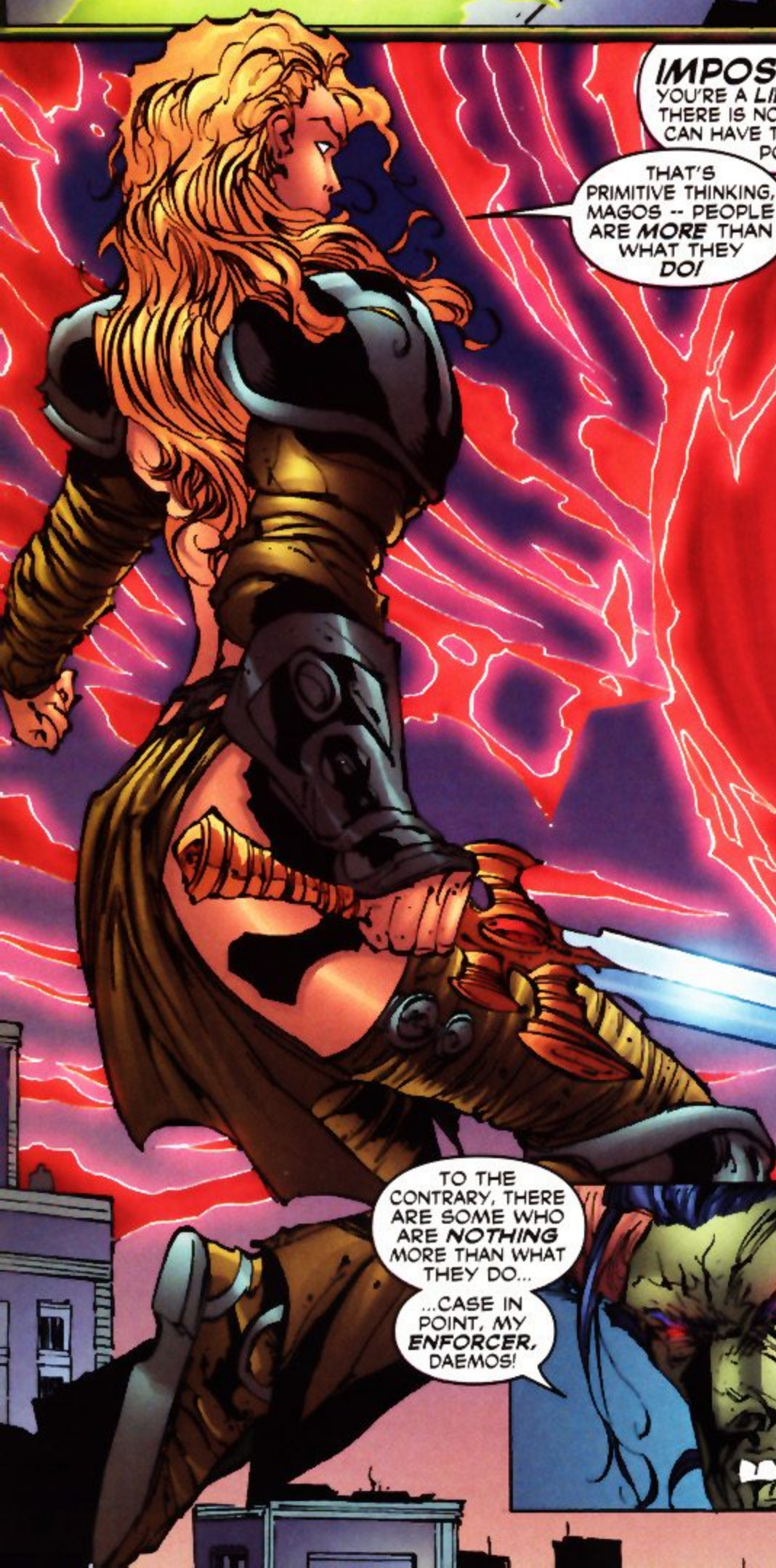


AH, YES...
THE TROJAN
DUCKIE...



AEEEEEE!

VICTORIA?!
SO THAT'S
WHERE SHE'S
GOTTEN TO...



IMPOSSIBLE!
YOU'RE A LIBRARIAN --
THERE IS NO WAY YOU
CAN HAVE THIS MUCH
POWER!

THAT'S
PRIMITIVE THINKING,
MAGOS -- PEOPLE
ARE MORE THAN
WHAT THEY
DO!



TO THE
CONTRARY, THERE
ARE SOME WHO
ARE NOTHING
MORE THAN WHAT
THEY DO...

...CASE IN
POINT, MY
ENFORCER,
DAEMOS!



GRRRRRRR



I have him,
Lady Victoria!
Stop Magos
now!

THWAMM

SWAA

IT'S
TOO LATE TO
STOP ME! ALREADY
THE FORCES THAT
WILL SEVER EARTH'S
AXIS ARE AT
WORK!
I WILL HAVE MY
WAY -- THIS IS MY
BIRTHRIGHT!

AND YOU
HAVE NO
POWER TO
STOP ME!

I DON'T
NEED POWER --
YOU'LL SHOOT
YOURSELF IN
THE FOOT...

SEZZZ

...WITH A
LITTLE HELP,
PERHAPS.

SHANG

SLIISSSS

YAAAAHH!





CALL IT OFF, MAGGOT.

I CAN NOT. I **WILL** NOT.

DESPITE CURRENT DISCOMFORT, I KNOW I WILL WIN. THIS IS MY **DESTINY!**



YOU **HAVE** GOT TO LEARN TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN **DESTINY...**

...AND **SELF-DELUSION!**



DESTINY HAS GIVEN ME SEVERAL GIFTS, FOR INSTANCE, THE **WISDOM** TO KNOW HOW TO STOP YOU.

AND THE **POWER** TO CARRY IT OUT!

THIS IS WHAT MY DESTINY BRINGS ME, MAGOS...





AND THIS
IS WHAT YOUR
DELUSIONS
HAVE BROUGHT
YOU!

NO,
WAIT--!



THAT'TA
GIRL...!

THAT'S MY
DAUGHTER --
SAVING THE
WORLD!



AA
AA
HHH!

...AND IN THE END, THE
FOOLISH KING GOT WHAT
HE ALWAYS WISHED FOR...

...HIS **INFLUENCE** WAS
SPREAD ACROSS THE
COSMOS!

AND A WORLD THAT
NEVER KNEW IT WAS
IN DANGER, SURVIVED!

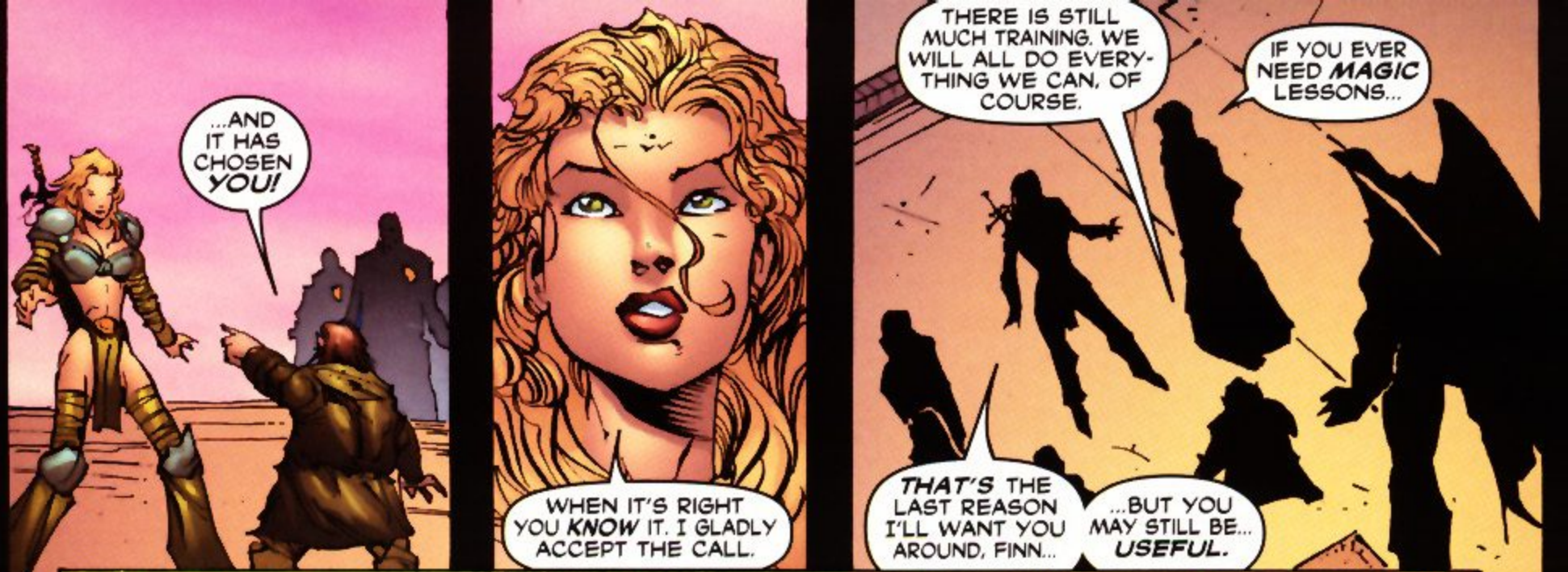
THOUGHT IT
WAS GONNA
RAIN...

WOW,
BABY -- YOU
WERE **SOME-
THING!**

YEAH, IT'S
GONNA BE KINDA
BORING TO GO BACK
TO YOUR ORDINARY
LIFE NOW...

OH, NO...
YOUR LIFE
WILL **NEVER**
BE ORDINARY
AGAIN, LASS.

I'M AFRAID
THIS WAS JUST
THE BEGINNING.
AS YOU SEE, THE
MULTIVERSE
NEEDS A
GUARDIAN...



JOHN
OSTRANDER
(the spectre, jla)

IVAN
REIS
(lady death)

HI*FI
(colorists of new x-men)



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will she KILL the children she has sworn to protect? tune in!

Lady Death

:LAST RITES

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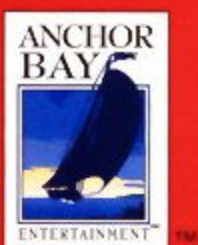
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Lady Death & Chastity

ISSUE **ONE**

THIS COULD GET MESSY...

CATCH THEM IN STORES 12.19.2001

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THE UNDEAD #1



BRIAN PULIDO
STORY

BRIAN DENHAM
ART

RICK YOUNG TURNED AWAY FROM A LIFE OF VIOLENCE, BUT 200 MILLION FRENZIED UNDEAD EMBRACE IT. WHERE DOES HE GO FROM HERE?

COMING IN JANUARY 2002

FOR MATURE READERS



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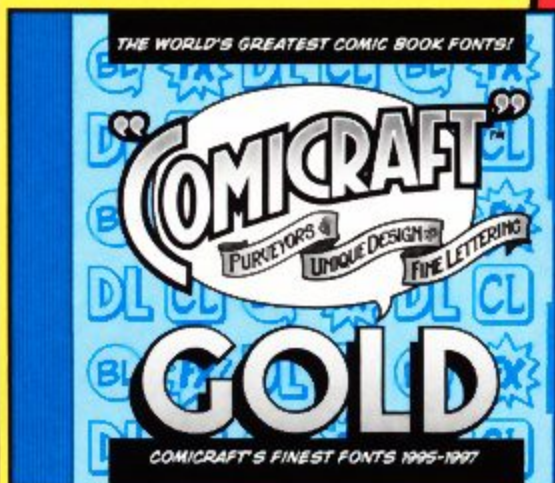
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SHIPPING JANUARY 2002



THE Impending Chaos!

Your monthly News Source on all things Chaos! - NOVEMBER 2001

#50

From the Crypt

Perhaps some of you remember back in July when I harshly criticized our books and took responsibility for the lack of quality? Some of you said I was too harsh on myself. Thanks for your concern but I don't see it that way. I like to shoot straight and that is why I "came clean". I figured I would do another report card on our progress.

I am happy to announce we have made a DRAMATIC shift in the quality of our books and it is reflected in your excitement and our sales. Chastity: Shattered was super cool, Purgatori: Hunted & Darkest Hour satisfied long-time Purgatori fans and Lady Death: Alive woke people up to the Diva of Death all over again. Will she stay alive or will she become Undead again. In short the buzz is back. We welcomed back one of Chaos!' coolest artist of all time, Justiniano for Halloween III (thanks to long time contributor, Phil Nutman). And as I write this, Evil Ernie is about to return to terrify the masses.

We are having a blast in-house as we make our plans for 2002! We are inviting cool, cutting edge talent to join our dark adventure like Dan Jolley writer of Obergist from Minotaur Press. Dan is writing the upcoming Purgatori: God Hunter & Purgatori: God Killer for us. I am launching a new imprint, Black Label, to satisfy my own dark creativity. We've signed Carlos Mota (artist on Lady Death/Bad Kitty #1) to a year long contract. We are ramping up production on two company-wide events, DARK ALLIANCE (spring 2002) and CHAOS! WAR (fall 2002).

I could go on and on but perhaps you get the picture. We are amped, we are excited and we are out to conquer the world! Come along for the ride!!!

Sworn,

-Brian Pulido

PS - My new book, Undead #1, is coming out on January 25th, 2002 - and it's coming out on my new comic imprint, Pulido's Black Label Graphics. Please reserve multiple copies of it today!

PULIDO'S BLACK LABEL: COMICS WITH GUTS!

We warned you last month, and now we can spill the details on Chaos!' newest imprint, Black Label Graphics! Conceived by Chaos! President Brian Pulido as comics that will fill the utter void in hardcore horror that's out there, Black Label books will offer up in your face action with graphic, mind-blowing stories, while at the same time, keeping a finger in the supernatural pot.

"I have a certain storytelling style that my long time fans crave and Black Label Graphics is where those stories will be unleashed," Pulido said. "Black Label Graphics is the home for my dark creativity. It's the place my fans will get pure, dark, undiluted Pulido stories."

Technically, Black Label Graphics books will still carry the Chaos! name, but a smaller logo reading, "Black Label Graphics" will be printed just under the Chaos! logo to let you know that you're getting the ultimate in hardcore comics - stories and art that are most definitely not for the squeamish. These are the stories that come from Chaos!' deepest nightmares - and unapologetically so. We're doing these books for a serious, specific audience - they're not for everyone, but to their fans, Black Label Graphics books will be the comics that you've been dying for!

Coming up in 2002, Black Label will usher in The Undead (see more below), The Dwelling, and two - count 'em, two - Evil Ernie projects! Yup, Ernie's finally found a home that will allow Brian to showcase him in all his gory glory! Right now, our schedule calls for one Black Label Graphics project

every quarter in 2002, starting with The Undead.

THE UNDEAD CRAWLS FORTH FROM BLACK LABEL

Brian's back! It takes a special project to get Brian Pulido's creative juices flowing, and this time, the project led to the creation of an all-new imprint for Chaos! Comics!

Figure it this way - Brian had a concept for a story and characters that were so shocking, so horrifying that he knew getting it out under the regular Chaos! banner would be problematic. Not that we shy away from horror under the shield! What Brian had in mind would hearken back to his psychotronic horror cinema fandom - movies that shocked by their graphic nature. They weren't afraid to back away from content, and neither was Brian - thus was born Black Label Graphics.

From the outset, Black Label stories won't be separated into their own "universe" - case in point, The Undead features Homicide (a.k.a. Dead King), one of the Chaos! Cosmos' deadliest dead characters.

The story - it's our world ten years after a global zombie infestation. A new civilization has sprung up in humanity's place, one with its own unique customs and rituals, all based around death! Humanity is now the minority and the dead hunt them mercilessly - for food! As a band of living refugees are captured by hostile zombie Apache scavengers and sold to a meat processing plant controlled by the corporate zombies, the Undead appears. A mysterious anti-hero who has turned away from a life of violence, the Undead has vowed to

serve the cause of the living. Along with Homicide, look for his brother Billy, and Mary Young - all classic characters from the original Evil Ernie saga, who meet their final fate in this miniseries! Also, the undead surgeon Autopsy makes a cameo appearance, and you can bet it will be messy!

The Undead #1 features artwork by talented newcomer Brian Denham, whose detailed illustration is sure to garner many fans. Clocking in with over 40 pages of story and art, The Undead #1 is a not to be missed shocker!

WIN A BIG ASS TV!

High definition television. It's the wave of the future - an expensive wave at that. But face it, haven't you been dying to see what one looks like, let alone, watch your favorite horror movie on it?

Got you covered.

Together with Digital Webbing, Comic Book Resources and a few other fine sponsors, we're giving you a chance to win a 47" projection HDTV! In addition to the set, the winner will also receive a load of loot from Anchor Bay Entertainment (Halloween DVDs, Halloween t-shirts, and other cool goodies)!

The contest starts on October 31st, and runs through December. Check out the books for more details.

THE ULTIMATE EVIL ERNIE!

December - the best Christmas gift ever for Chaos! Fiends is coming your way!

It's the Evil Ernie Hardcover that collects everything, everything you

need for your Ernie collection. It's the biggest book we've ever produced, running over 240 pages! It's got: Evil Ernie: Youth Gone Wild issues #1 through #5, Evil Ernie: Youth Gone Wild Director's Cut, the script to issue #1, never-before-seen sketches and layouts by Steven Hughes, photos and correspondence between Brian Pulido and Steven Hughes, an in depth interview with Brian Pulido on making horrific entertainment and more!

Trick is - it's limited to only 2,000 copies worldwide!

If you really, really want to trick out your Evil Ernie collection, you need the Special Edition, which contains everything in the standard edition, as well as: a custom cover by Steven Hughes, signed and numbered by Evil Ernie creator, Brian Pulido, a limited edition bookplate, a custom print by Steven Hughes, and a certificate of authenticity.

Act fast Fiends, the special edition is limited to just 500 copies worldwide.



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CHAOS!
ON THE EDGE

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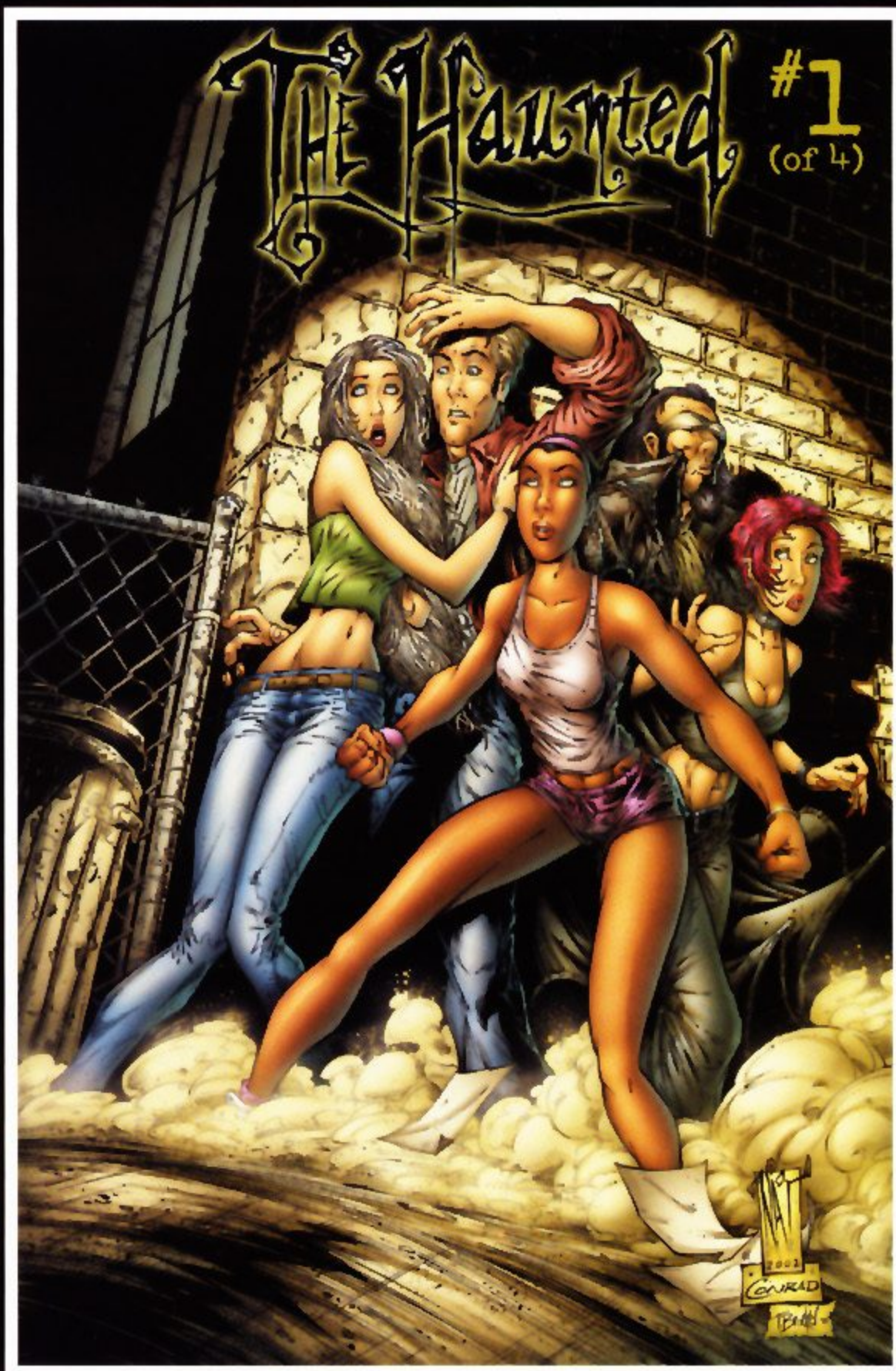
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